

Conference on Confidentiality, Disclosure, and Data Access -- Theory and Practical Applications for Statistical Agencies

January 7-9, 2002

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Washington, DC

Sponsored by

U.S. Census Bureau

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

American Statistical Association (ASA) Committee on Privacy & Confidentiality

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

Government Statistics Section of the ASA

Washington Statistical Society

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics

Data Dissemination vs Confidentiality Protection

There is a fundamental tension at the heart of every statistical agency's mission. Each is charged with collecting high quality data to inform National policy and enable statistical research. This necessitates dissemination of both summary and microdata. Each is also charged with protecting the confidentiality of survey respondents. This often necessitates blurring the data to reduce the probability of the reidentification of individuals. The trade-off dilemma, which could well be stated as protecting confidentiality (avoiding disclosure), but maximizing access, has become more complex as both technological advances and public perceptions have altered in an information age. Fortunately, statistical disclosure limitation techniques have kept pace with the rapidly growing changes affecting data access and dissemination

This Conference highlights the progress that statistical agencies are making in addressing these challenges from both a theoretical and practical standpoint.

A Pre-Conference primer is offered to provide a baseline for the uninitiated. Then, to kick off the Conference, we have asked leaders from some of the U.S. Federal statistical agencies to participate in a high level discussion on confidentiality policy. Those sessions are followed by two days of invited paper sessions describing the current state-of-the-art.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Monday, January 7, 2002

Pre-Conference Workshop -- Sponsored by Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology's (FCSM) Confidentiality and Data Access Committee:

- ***Privacy, Confidentiality and the Protection of Data - A Statistical Perspective.***-- For those not grounded in the techniques or terminology of confidentiality and data access, but who are interested in attending the conference, there is a workshop preceding the substantive sessions.

Federal Agencies Discuss Confidentiality Policy -- Sponsored by the FCSM's Subcommittee on Privacy and Confidentiality. Two sessions address key questions:

- ***Restricted Data*** -- What is confidentiality? What are the real threats to confidentiality? Should users accept responsibility for ensuring confidentiality?
- ***Restricted Access*** -- When to use licenses vs. data centers? How do we deal with perceptions that data are not adequately protected? Should we set up federal data centers? and, Is remote access safe?

INVITED SESSIONS

Tuesday and Wednesday, January 8-9, 2002

- ***Where We Are***
 - *Summary of Methods in Use*
 - *Challenges of Technology*
- ***New Advances with Demographic Data***
 - *Measuring Disclosure Risk*
 - *Disclosure Methods and Information Loss for Microdata*
 - *Disclosure Methods and Information Loss for Tabular Data*
- ***New Advances with Economic and Linked Data***
 - *New Research with Tabular Data*
 - *Disclosure Risk, Non-Perturbative Disclosure*
 - *Control Methods and Information Loss for Tabular Data*
 - *Disclosure Limitation in Longitudinal Linked Data*
- ***Data Access Methods***
 - *Licensing*
 - *Secure Sites*
 - *Remote Access*
- ***Perceptions***
 - *Confidentiality Perceptions*
 - *Ethnographic Research*
 - *Perception Issues in the Economic/ Organizational Sector*

New Book Presents State-of-the-Art Solutions

The U.S. Census Bureau and Elsevier Science of Reed Elsevier, Inc. are pleased to announce the upcoming release of *Confidentiality, Disclosure and Data Access: Theory and Practical Applications for Statistical Agencies*, edited by Pat Doyle, Julia Lane, Jules Theeuwes, and Laura Zayatz. This new book presents the latest developments in statistical data protection methodology and application. The Conference by the same name brings the authors of the book to Washington, DC to discuss their work, providing a review of the new state-of-the-art

techniques that directly address confidentiality, disclosure, and data access from both a theoretical and a practical perspective.

All Conference participants will receive a copy of the new book *Confidentiality, Disclosure, and Data Access --Theory and Practical Applications for Statistical Agencies*.

Specifics about the Conference

The Intended Audience

- Civil servants in national statistical agencies
- Statistical practitioners
- Social scientists using secondary data

Location

Conference Center
Bureau of Labor Statistics
2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20212

Registration

Fee: \$150.00 (USD)

Due: December 3, 2001

Contact: Anna Halaus or Daneeta Stewart on (301) 457-2308 (Fax: (301) 457-3682)

Hotel Information

Phoenix Park Hotel
Washington, DC
For Reservations Call: (202) 638-6900 or 1 (800) 824-5419
Reference Group No. 8961 when making your reservations.

First Come, First Serve Limited Seating

For Registration and Hotel Information Contact Anna Halaus or Daneeta Stewart

For Other Information Contact Pat Doyle at <patricia.j.doyle@census.gov>